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Contact: Jerry Braatz, UW-Extension, (262) 548-7770

WAUKESHA COUNTY AWARDED ENERGY INDEPENDENCE GRANT

WAUKESHA, Wis. – Governor Jim Doyle has awarded Waukesha County \$45,000 in funds from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), the first of its kind in the nation, under the Wisconsin Energy Independent Community Partnership. Waukesha County is one of eleven government bodies in Wisconsin awarded the grant.

"These grants will help Wisconsin seize the opportunity to grow a strong new part of our economy in clean energy," Governor Doyle said.

Waukesha County will participate in a year-long planning process to collect energy data, and identify energy efficiency and renewable energy projects to update its current Sustainability Plan, which was first adopted in 2008.

"The Waukesha County Sustainability Plan sets a strategy to attain and maintain a place of leadership in environmental stewardship and sustainability at our facilities, in our operations and in the larger community of which we are a part," said County Executive Dan Vrakas. "This grant provides the funding to further expand and revise our sustainability plan."

The planning process begins this month and will be completed by December 2010. During this process, there are opportunities for other communities around our state to learn from the experiences of the pilot communities.

For more information about the Waukesha County's Sustainability Plan log on to www.waukeshacounty.gov/sustain.

For more information regarding the Energy Independent Community Partnership ("25 x 25") go to: www.energyindependence.wi.gov and click on "EI Communities".

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